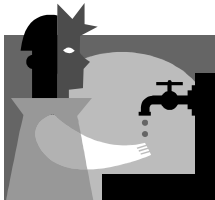


**Children with the following conditions do not have to be excluded from school:**

- Bronchitis
- Common Colds, as long as they are mild and there is no fever
- Croup
- Cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection
- Ear Infection
- Fifth Disease
- Pinworms
- Pneumonia
- Rash without a fever
- Red eye without yellow or green discharge, fever or matting
- Warts

**Help your child stay healthy and ready to learn.**

We hope that your child never has to miss school because of illness or disease. The best protection from disease is prevention. You can help prevent many illnesses by making sure your child receives immunizations and by making sure your child washes his or her hands often.



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[www.scdhec.net/health/disease/exclusion.htm](http://www.scdhec.net/health/disease/exclusion.htm)

**Effective July 1, 2005 — June 30, 2007**

# School Exclusion List



**1st — 12th Grades**

**If you think that your child has an illness that can be spread to others, please keep him or her home from school. Contact your doctor or clinic.**

Dear Parents:

A School Exclusion List indicates for which illnesses a child must be kept out of (excluded from) school. It also indicates when medical notes are needed for children to return to school after certain illnesses.

**The information in this brochure applies to students in 1st through 12th grades who are not considered to be Medically Fragile.** If needed, your child's school will give you information on Exclusion Lists for children in 3, 4 or 5 year old Kindergarten, or students in 1st through 12th grades who are Medically Fragile.

If you have any questions about the School Exclusion List, please contact your child's school or your local health department.

## Questions about Antibiotics

**Does my child need to take antibiotics when he or she is sick?**

Antibiotics are very powerful medications. They should only be used when prescribed to treat bacterial infections. If your child has a viral infection, antibiotics will not cure it, help him or her to feel better, or prevent someone else from getting the virus.

**If mucus from the nose changes from clear to yellow or green, does this mean that my child needs an antibiotic?**

Colds are caused by viruses and should not be treated with antibiotics. Yellow or green mucus does not mean that your child has a bacterial infection. It is normal for the mucus to get thick and change color during a viral cold.

**Should I ask my child's doctor to prescribe antibiotics?**

The need for antibiotics depends on the diagnosis. Here are a few examples:

- **Cough or bronchitis.** Children rarely need antibiotics for bronchitis.
- **Diarrhea.** Most case of diarrhea stop without medications. Severe, prolonged diarrhea may be caused by an infection. Your doctor can do laboratory tests to see if your child needs antibiotics.
- **Ear infections.** There are several types; many need antibiotics, but some do not.
- **Sinus infections.** Most children with thick or green mucus do not have sinus infections. Antibiotics are needed for some long-lasting or severe cases.
- **Sore throat.** Only one major kind, "strep throat," requires antibiotics. This condition must be diagnosed by a laboratory test.



# School Exclusion List: A Quick Reference for Parents

*Please keep your child home from school if he or she has one of the conditions or illnesses listed below. Call your child's school to let them know why your child is absent. Send the appropriate note when your child returns to school.*

## Chicken Pox / Varicella

Children with chicken pox may return to school with a **Parent Note** once all of the sores and blisters are dried/scabbed over.

## Diarrhea

Keep your child home if he or she has had three or more loose stools in 24 hours or stools with blood or mucus, unless your child is known to have diarrhea from a non-contagious condition. Your child can return to school with a **Parent Note** when the diarrhea has stopped.

## Diarrhea from E. coli

If your child has diarrhea from **E. coli**, he or she can return to school with a **Medical Note** after laboratory tests show that the infection is over.

## Diarrhea from Salmonella or Shigella

Keep your child home until 24 hours after the diarrhea stops. A **Medical Note** is required to return to school.

## Fever

Keep your child home for fever 101 degrees or higher by mouth, or 100 degrees or higher if taken under the arm. Your child can return to school with a **Parent Note** when the fever is gone.



**If your child has trouble breathing, is unusually tired or unusually irritable, or appears to be very sick, keep him or her home from school. Contact your doctor or clinic right away.**

## Fever with Rash or Behavior Change

Take your child to a doctor or clinic for any fever if he or she also has a rash or change in behavior. A **Medical Note** is required to return to school.

## German Measles / Rubella / 3-Day-Measles

Keep your child out of school until seven days after the start of the rash. A **Medical Note** is required to return to school.

## Head Lice

Children with head lice should be sent home at the end of the school day. They can return with a **Parent Note** after their first treatment with a school-approved lice removal product. Your child's school may recommend options for head lice treatments.

## Hepatitis A / Yellow Jaundice

Keep children with hepatitis out of school until seven days after the start of the jaundice. A **Medical Note** is required to return to school.

## Impetigo

If your child has honey-colored crusty sores that cannot be covered, he or she should remain out of school until 24 hours after starting treatment. Your child may return with a **Parent Note**.

## Measles / Red Measles / 10-Day-Measles

Children with measles can return to school with a **Medical Note** four days after the rash begins, if they feel well enough to participate in school activities.

## Mumps

Children with mumps can return with a **Medical Note** nine days after the beginning of swelling.

## Pink-Eye / Conjunctivitis

- ♦ Children whose eyes are red or pink, and who have eye pain and reddened eyelids, with white or yellow eye discharge or eyelids matted after sleep may have **Purulent Conjunctivitis**. They should not be in school until they have been examined and treated. A **Medical Note** is required to return to school.
- ♦ Children with pink eyes who have a clear drainage and no fever, eye pain or eyelid redness do not have to be kept out of school.

## Rash

Take your child to a doctor if he or she has a rash with fever or behavior change. A **Medical Note** is required to return to school.

## Ringworm

- ♦ Children with **ringworm of the scalp** must remain out of school until they have begun treatment with a prescription oral antifungal medication. Your school may recommend that your child use selenium sulfide shampoo to help decrease the spread of ringworm infection. Your child may return to school with a **Medical Note**.
- ♦ Children with **ringworm of the body** may return to school with a **Parent Note** once they have begun oral or topical antifungal treatment, or if the affected area can be covered by clothing. Your child's school may have additional restrictions for children participating in PE & sports activities.

## Scabies

Children with scabies should be out of school until treatment/medication has been applied. A **Medical Note** is required to return to school.

## Shingles

Keep children home who have shingles lesions/sores/blisters that cannot be covered. Your child may return to school with a **Parent Note**.

## Strep Throat / Streptococcal Pharyngitis

Your child with "strep throat" can return to school with a **Medical Note** 24 hours after starting antibiotic treatment if he or she has no fever.

## Tuberculosis (TB)

Children with TB should be out of school until the doctor treating the TB says that they are no longer infectious (catching). A **Medical Note** is required to return to school.

## Whooping Cough / Pertussis

Children with whooping cough can return to school with a **Medical Note** after completing five days of appropriate antibiotics.

DHEC and your school may recommend that your child stay home from school when he or she is exposed to certain diseases, including **Haemophilus influenzae type B**, **Neisseria meningitidis**, or **Whooping Cough / Pertussis**. Children who have not had all of the recommended immunizations for their age or who have immune system problems will be excluded from school if they are exposed to **Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Whooping Cough / Pertussis**, or other conditions identified by DHEC.

**Your child may need a Medical Note from a doctor or clinic before returning to school after some illnesses.**

